THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) to (c) This Ministry is responsible for maintenance and development of National Highways. Srinagar-Bandipur road is not a National Highway. Its condition and usage by transffic is not being monitored by Ministry. The repair of this road will not be undertaken by Ministry.

Road projects in Rajasthan

1680. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of road projects of Rajasthan including the proposal of widening of Jaipur-Agra road to 4 lanned highways, which are pending with Government for approval/clearance;

(b) the reasons for the delay in according approval; and

(c) the measures contemplated to expedite the clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) to (c) Seventh projects relating to National Highways included in the current Annual Plan amounting to Rs. 23.63 crores received from Rajasthan State PWD are under scrutiny in the Ministry since January 2003. The approval of National Highway projects in the Ministry is subject to the prescribed limit of Bank of Sanction and *inter-se*-priority. Processing of these projects has not been delayed.

Sanction for Feasibility Study and Preparation of Detailed Project Report for 4/6-laning of Agra-Jaipur Road (NH-11) has been accorded by the Ministry.

Bridge linking Talaimannar and Dhanushkodi

1681. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are examining the proposal to construct a bridge linking Talaimannar and Dhanushkodi prepared by the Board of Investment of Sri Lanka;